

Bicycle Project Highlights: Off-Road

Lincoln County Lincolnton: Rail Trail TIP Project E-3305

Running along a discontinued railway beneath Main Street in the heart of the city of Lincolnton is a lively linear park known as the Lincolnton Rail Trail. Once an eyesore covered with kudzu and debris, the former rail corridor is now a valued feature of downtown. The Division of Bicycle and Pedestrian Transportation (DBPT) faced significant design challenges in overseeing preparation of construction plans for this project. Old railway drainage pipes had ceased to function adequately, causing water to pool during heavy storm events. Ancient retaining walls were crumbling. However, with support from the Hydraulics Unit and the Structure Design Unit of NCDOT, these and other problems were overcome. Today the old rail bed, free of kudzu and mud puddles, is a paved, 10-ft-wide multi-use path with landscaping and other aesthetic features, beckoning people to park their cars and enjoy a pleasant stroll on the trail.



Rail-trail goes through downtown, crossing



Attractive banners add aesthetic appeal underneath Main Street